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INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 0839
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UNCLAS SAO PAULO 000609

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TAGS: KMDR OPRC OIIP XM XR XF BR

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: BRAZIL AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND U.S.

POINT OF VIEW

"A Test for Brazil to join the U.N."

Article in liberal Folha de S. Paulo (10-17) by columnist Clovis Rossi says: "President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva will receive his Iranian colleague Mahmoud Ahmadinejad [in Brazil in November] as a member of the UN Security Council. The sentence comes almost as if a distraction from one of the two U.S. diplomats that talked to Folha [on Friday]...under the condition of anonymity....What does this sentence mean?....It means that U.S. diplomacy would like Lula to say to the Iranian President...that the Iranian nuclear program must have only peaceful ends and Iran must undergo international inspections....before saying that, the diplomat noted that Brazil's [temporary] seat for 2 years [at the Security Council] .....is a golden opportunity for the country to prove its condition as a global player. Or interpreted freely, it will be a kind of a test for Brazil to show it is mature enough to take part at the Security Council as a permanent member..."